GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:809
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION OF COAL TO STATES
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/norms followed for allocation of coal to a State from the Western Collieries Ltd., (WCL);

(b) whether the State of Gujarat is allocated coal from the eastern coal belt;

(c) if so,the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government is considering to allocate coal to Gujarat from WCL;

(e) if so,the details thereof outlining the modalities;and

(f) if not,the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA)

(a) The allocation of coal,including coal allocation from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), on long-term and short-term basis is made by Standing Linkage Committee,an Inter-Ministerial Committee,keeping in view the availability of coal logistic arrangements for evacuation of coal, qualitative requirement as per Ministry of Environment and Forest norms etc.

(b) to(f): Out of 5 power utilities located in Gujarat,main source of supply is South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL).Only one thermal power station viz. Sikka in Gujarat is getting coal from a mine operated beyond 1600 KMs.Other power stations of Gujarat are getting their coal from South Eastern Coalfields Limited which is next nearest source of Gujarat,apart from NCL and some portion of coal is supplied from Western Coalfields Limited (WCL).Further, as the power stations of Gujarat are located more than 1000 KMs away from Coalfields,to meet Ministry of Environment and Forest stipulations,coal of lower ash content from the nearest coalfields of Korea-Rewa of SECL for arriving at desired blending mixed within stipulated ash content is being supplied.Keeping in view the existing coal commitments of WCL and with no perceptible growth prospect in coal production in coming years at WCL,it may not be feasible to consider any further rationalization of source from WCL for power plants of Gujarat at this stage.